

University of Michigan Law School
University of Michigan Law School Scholarship Repository

Miscellaneous Law School Publications

Law School History and Publications

1949

Legal Education at Michigan

University of Michigan Law School

Follow this and additional works at: <http://repository.law.umich.edu/miscellaneous>



Part of the [Legal Education Commons](#)

Citation

University of Michigan Law School, "Legal Education at Michigan" (1949). *Miscellaneous Law School Publications*.
<http://repository.law.umich.edu/miscellaneous/60>

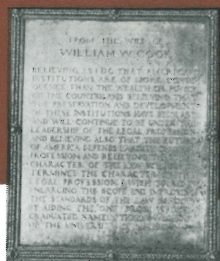
This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Law School History and Publications at University of Michigan Law School Scholarship Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in Miscellaneous Law School Publications by an authorized administrator of University of Michigan Law School Scholarship Repository. For more information, please contact mlaw.repository@umich.edu.

THE CHARACTER OF THE LEGAL PROFESSION DEPENDS ON THE CHARACTER OF THE LAW SCHOOLS
THE CHARACTER OF THE LAW SCHOOLS FORECASTS THE FUTURE OF AMERICA



Legal Education at Michigan

Tablet containing excerpt from
the W. W. Cook will is in Hutchins Hall.



B

ELIEVING AS I DO THAT AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS ARE OF
MORE CONSEQUENCE THAN THE WEALTH OR POWER OF THE
COUNTRY; AND BELIEVING THAT THE PRESERVATION AND
DEVELOPMENT OF THESE INSTITUTIONS HAVE BEEN, ARE, AND
WILL CONTINUE TO BE UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF THE LEGAL
PROFESSION; AND BELIEVING ALSO THAT THE FUTURE OF
AMERICA DEPENDS LARGELY ON THAT PROFESSION; AND BELIEV-
ING THAT THE CHARACTER OF THE LAW SCHOOLS DETERMINES
THE CHARACTER OF THE LEGAL PROFESSION, I WISH TO AID IN
ENLARGING THE SCOPE AND IMPROVING THE STANDARDS OF THE
LAW SCHOOLS BY AIDING THE ONE FROM WHICH I GRADUATED,
NAMELY THE LAW SCHOOL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN.

FROM THE WILL OF

William W. Cook

..IMU

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

VOL. 50, No. 87

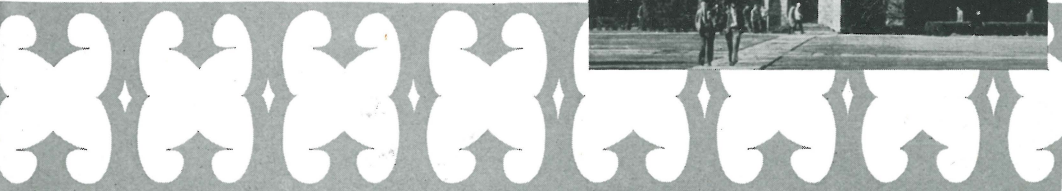
APRIL 28, 1949

Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at Ann Arbor, Mich. Issued semiweekly by the University of Michigan.



Michigan University

Legal Education at Michigan



MC
842
L5
1949



State and Federal Reports are on "open shelves" for daily use by students completing class problems and assignments.

Instruction in Law

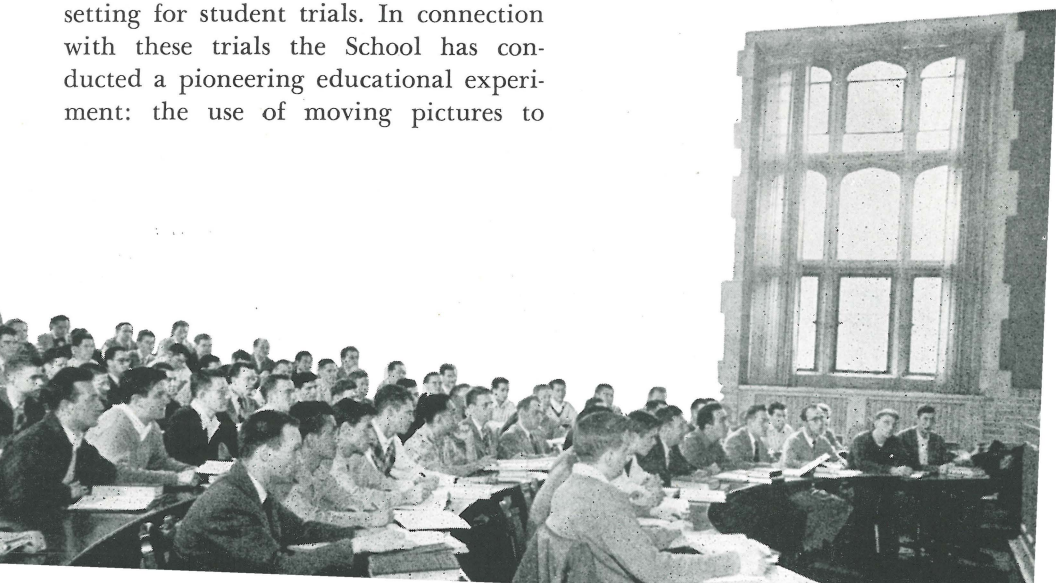
Sound education for the legal profession must equip the student with thorough knowledge of the fundamental legal principles, and in addition must give him an understanding of the role of law in modern society. An understanding of society is particularly important for the reason that the law is ever-changing to meet and satisfy the shifting needs of men and their affairs. It is for this reason, among others, that students are required to complete a liberal arts education before being admitted to the Law School.

In the Law School instruction is offered in all important phases of the common and statute law of the United States, and in addition time is devoted to such semiprofessional, cultural subjects as comparative law, international law, legal history, and jurisprudence. The fundamental principles of the law are illum-

inated by study of their origin, development, and function. Because the School draws its students from all states of the Union and also from foreign countries, general principles of the law are emphasized in preference to local law. Graduates are qualified to take any of the state bar examinations, depending upon their choice of location for law practice.

One of the pioneers in the use of the "case method" of teaching, the Michigan Law School has developed the method to a most effective degree. Free classroom discussion of legal principles, as disclosed in reported cases, statutes, and other legal materials is the core of the program, but various other classroom techniques are utilized where appropriate. Problems are submitted for solution, and legal research and drafting are required. Classes explore related nonlegal materials as time permits, in order better to understand the application of the law to society. To insure that students become familiar with the conduct of litigation, instruction is offered in civil and criminal procedure. This teaching is supplemented by especially realistic work in the practice court, and by programs of student-managed case clubs, or moot courts.

Practice court is required of all senior students in the Law School. A fully-equipped court room provides the setting for student trials. In connection with these trials the School has conducted a pioneering educational experiment: the use of moving pictures to

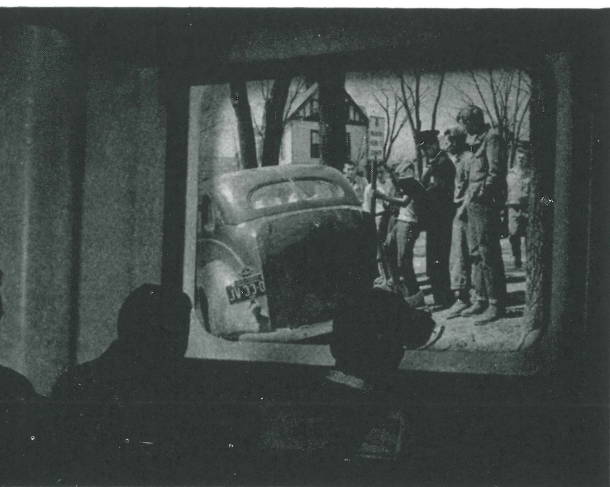


supply the factual bases of litigation. Special movies are taken of litigious events and are shown to the witnesses and principals in the trials, who later are questioned by the student lawyers. In addition to practice in preparing briefs and arguing cases, this "movie" method gives the students experience in obtaining information from their clients and witnesses and in actually trying cases before juries.

Although the primary function of the Law School is to prepare its students for the practice of law, it is also deemed important to provide for the education of law teachers, scholars and writers. The School therefore offers advanced graduate instruction in all the principal divisions of the law, including the several branches of public law, comparative law, legal history, and philosophy of law. Especial encouragement is given to legal research, for the financial support of which the School has the benefit of the William W. Cook Endowment Fund.

SPECIAL LECTURES

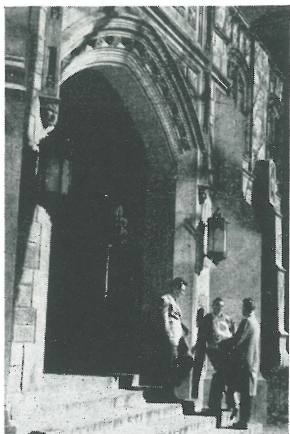
As a part of its program the School from time to time brings to the Law Quadrangle speakers prominent in their respective fields to deliver special lectures or conduct institutes on topics not covered in the regular courses. These lectures and institutes serve to broaden the horizons of the students and are of especial value in affording personal acquaintance with leaders in the profession. Two major series of lectures are offered annually, open to law students as well as to the general public. These are the William W. Cook Lectures on American Institu-



CASE MOVIES: *Each student participating in a Practice Court trial sees a movie of the event concerned in the trial. The film he sees corresponds to the part he plays in the trial; for example, if he acts as an eye-witness to an accident, he sees a movie of the accident taken from the spot he presumably occupied as a witness.*



Practice Court Practice Court trials are as realistic as the best efforts of students and faculty can make them. Witnesses and jurors are usually students from undergraduate classes in political science rather than law students, whose testimony and judgment might be influenced by their own knowledge of law. A member of the Law School faculty serves as judge for all cases.



tions, and the Thomas M. Cooley Lectures. The Cook Lectures were established by the donor to disseminate understanding of institutions regarded as peculiarly American—institutions that have made notable contributions to what is called “the American way of life.” The Cooley Lectures are designed to encourage the discussion of timely topics of a more distinctly professional character. These lectures are published and thus made generally available to all who are interested.

Likewise a planned part of legal education at Michigan is the encouragement of close fellowship of students with other students, students with faculty, and students with members of the practicing bar. Opportunity for such fellowship is afforded by the dormitory, dining, and recreational facilities of the Lawyers Club, where students live together and where they have frequent opportunity of associating informally with faculty members and visitors to the Quadrangle. Indeed the donor of the Quadrangle especially intended the creation of an American Inn of Court where professional esprit-de-corps would be promoted by the informal contacts made possible by associations within the Quadrangle walls.

A STUDENT TYPING ROOM IS SITUATED IN THE LAW LIBRARY BASEMENT

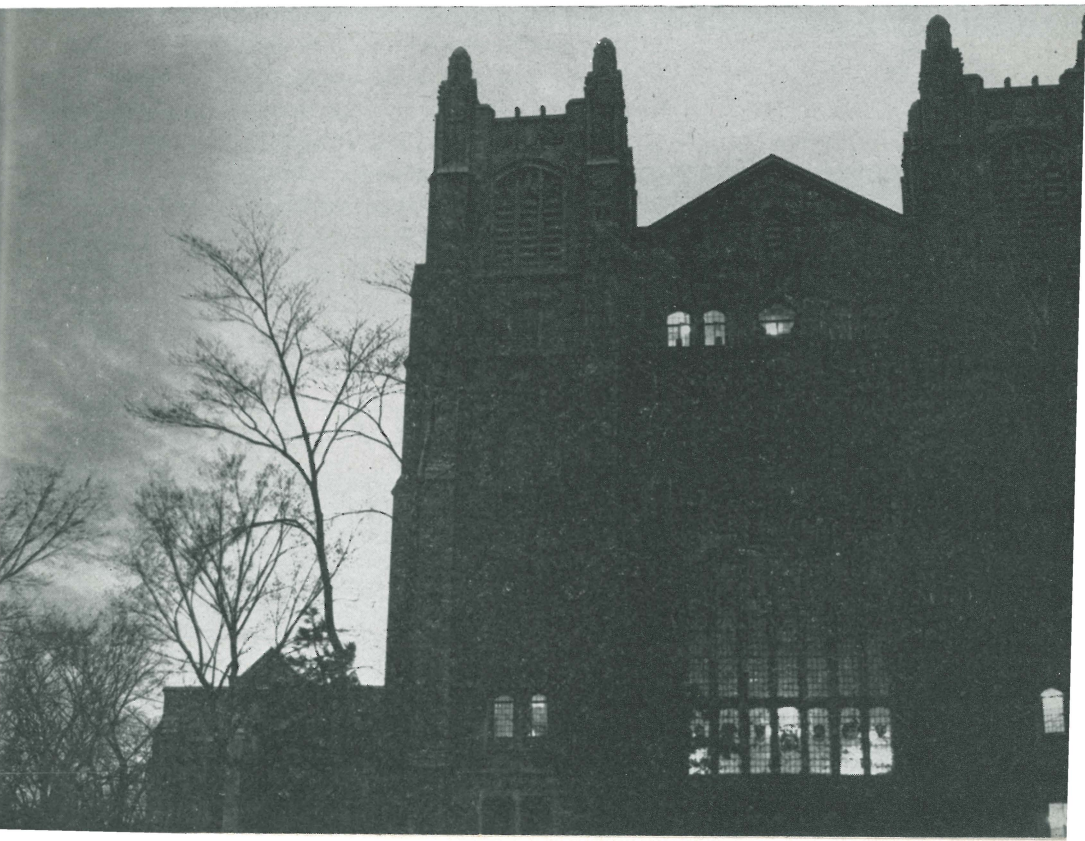


Legal Research

A program of timely, constructive research on legal problems is an integral part of the work of the faculty of the Law School. William W. Cook, '82L, a distinguished and generous alumnus of the University of Michigan Law School, established the W. W. Cook Endowment Fund, a substantial sum of money set aside in trust with the provision that the income shall be used for legal research at Michigan. The research program is carried on under the direction of a faculty committee with the financial assistance of this fund.

One of the larger projects now in progress is a study of inter-American law of negotiable instruments. When completed, the published results will include a series of volumes, one or more

THE TOWERS OF THE LEGAL RESEARCH BUILDING AGAINST A TWILIGHT SKY



The Faculty

Responsibility for instruction and research rests upon the faculty of the Law School. Shown here, seated on the outside of the table from left to right, are: GROVER C. GRISMORE, BURKE SHARTEL, LEWIS M. SIMES, HESSEL E. YNTEMA, RALPH W. AIGLER, PAUL G. KAUPER, CHARLES W. JOINER, WILLIAM W. BLUME, MARVIN L. NIEHUSS, E. BLYTHE STASON, JOHN B. WAITE, HOBART R. COFFEY, ALLAN F. SMITH, WILLIAM W. BISHOP, JR., SAMUEL D. ESTEP, MARCUS L. PLANT, L. HART WRIGHT, and EDGAR N. DURFEE. Seated inside the table are RUSSELL A. SMITH, LAYLIN K. JAMES, ALBERT F. NEUMANN, JOHN P. DAWSON, and GEORGE E. PALMER. Faculty members not in the photograph are PAUL A. LEIDY, JOHN E. TRACY, and EDSON R. SUNDERLAND.



containing a complete annotated concordance of the texts of the negotiable instruments laws of all countries of the Western Hemisphere, and the remaining volumes, monographic in form, discussing in a comparative manner specific phases of this law. The monographs are being written by prominent South American lawyers sent to the University for this purpose on United States Department of State fellowships. The project is not only a scholarly treatment of an important branch of the law, but at the same time it is a timely and practical study of value to lawyers engaged in inter-American financial or commercial transactions.

Another current research project is an extensive study of state constitutions, state and federal legislation, and sub-legislative regulations. Statute drafting and interpretation are professional tasks requiring specialized knowledge, skill, and facilities quite different from those usually needed in connection with judge-made law. Moreover, state constitutions are con-



More than 200,000 volumes are contained in the stacks of the Law Library, in the Legal Research Building.

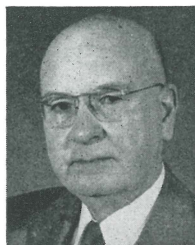


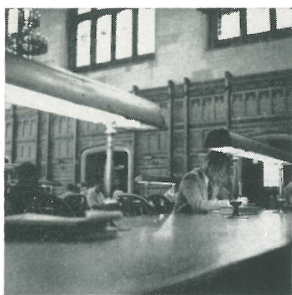
tinuously undergoing amendment and revision, all too frequently without adequate preliminary research. The publications—articles, monographs, bibliographies, drafts of model codes—resulting from this project will facilitate the tasks of the lawyer, the legislator, and the scholar working with the ever increasing mass of such “written law.”

The research staff is composed of professors, fellows, and assistants, including not only regular members of the faculty, relieved temporarily from teaching duties, but also occasionally visiting research professors from other institutions and graduate students who are engaged in research in addition to their other studies. The program of graduate instruction, indeed, strongly encourages research. Candidates for the degree of Doctor of the Science of Law (S.J.D.) must complete and publish original research studies in partial satisfaction of the degree requirements.

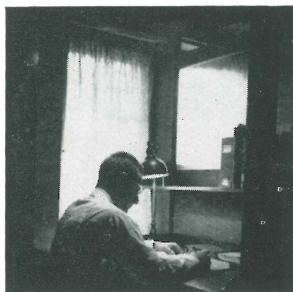
The Law faculty together with a Student Editorial Board edit the *Michigan Law Review*, publishing therein many of the studies resulting from the research program. The *Law Review*, founded in 1902, is published monthly from November to June. It contains leading articles of timely interest as well as comments on current cases and legal problems. Case notes and comments are prepared by the student editors working under faculty supervision. Not only is the *Review* a medium for the publication of

DEAN STASON





Above, in the library reading room. Below, a student works in his carrel in the stacks.

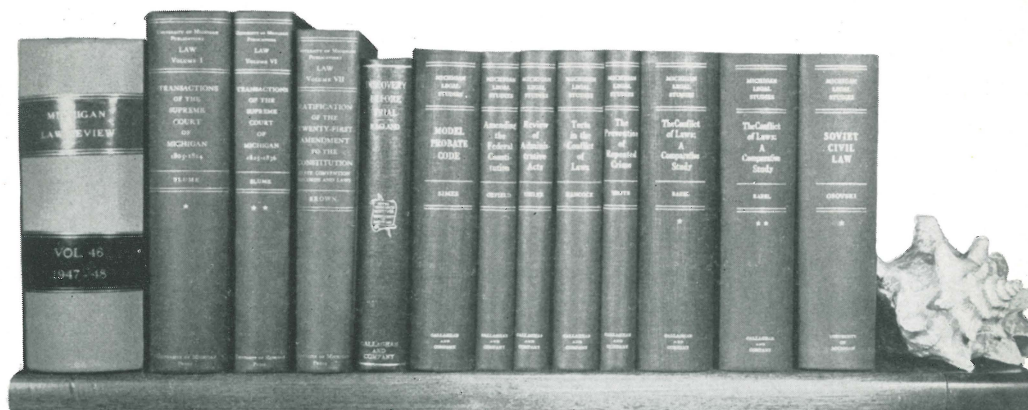


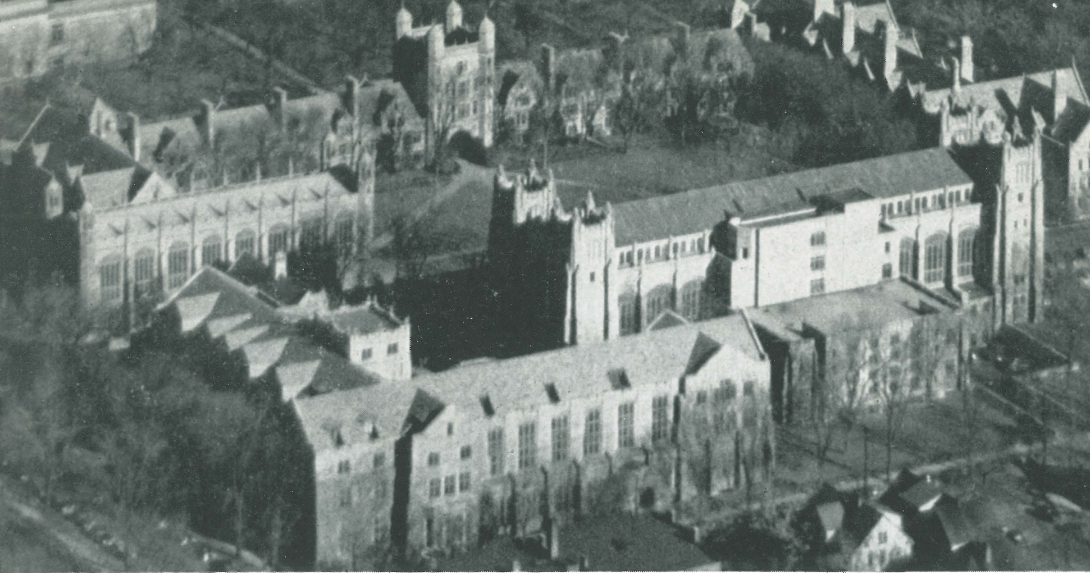
research, but for its student editors it serves also as an extremely valuable means of education in legal research and writing. The *Journal* of the American Judicature Society, devoted to promoting the efficient administration of justice, is likewise published at the Law School.

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

Legal studies published to date in book form by the Michigan Law School as a part of its research program are: *Transactions of the Supreme Court of Michigan, 1805-1835* (six volumes), by William Wirt Blume; *Ratification of the Twenty-first Amendment to the Constitution*, by Everett E. Brown; *Discovery Before Trial*, by George Ragland, Jr.; *Torts in the Conflict of Laws*, by Moffatt Hancock; *Amending the Federal Constitution*, by Lester B. Orfield; *Review of Administrative Acts*, by Armin Uhler; *The Prevention of Repeated Crime*, by John Barker Waite; *The Conflict of Laws: A Comparative Study* (two volumes), by Ernst Rabel; *Unreported Opinions of the Supreme Court of Michigan, 1836-1843*, edited by William Wirt Blume; *Problems in Probate Law: Model Probate Code*, by Lewis M. Simes and Paul E. Basye; and *Soviet Civil Law* (two volumes), by Vladimir Gsovski.

Books published as a part of the Law School research program make an impressive shelf.





DINING HALL

LAWYERS CLUB

HUTCHINS HALL

LEGAL RESEARCH BUILDING

JOHN P. COOK BUILDING

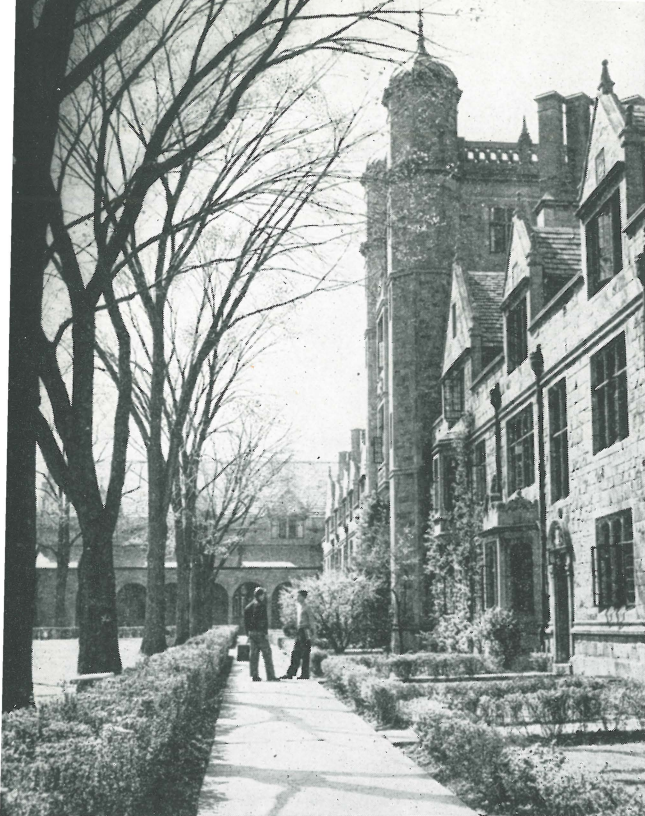
William W. Cook

Law Quadrangle

The William W. Cook Law Quadrangle is the home of the Law School. Situated immediately south of the central University campus, it is a unique and splendid educational plant. Among physical facilities devoted to legal education, it is second to none in the nation.

There are four buildings, the Lawyers Club, the John P. Cook Building, the Legal Research Building, and Hutchins Hall. Within their walls are the classrooms, offices, and libraries of the Law School and residence and dining facilities for many of the law students. The oldest of the buildings, the Lawyers Club, was completed in 1924; Hutchins Hall, the last of the group to be completed, was occupied in 1933.

Constructed of Weymouth seam-faced granite with trimmings of Indiana limestone, the buildings are a late Jacobean type of Gothic architecture. The main entrance to the Quad-



range is from South University Avenue through an arch under the great central tower of the Lawyers Club. Immediately opposite, across the carpet of grass and flagstone walks, is the imposing Legal Research Building. To the left is the John P. Cook Building, a residence hall, and to the right are the Lawyers Club and Hutchins Hall.

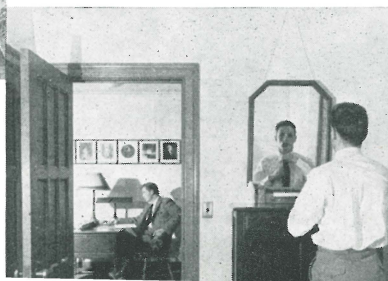
These buildings, erected with exacting care for every detail of architecture, decoration and furnishing, are devoted to the training of lawyers and to the increase of knowledge concerning the law. They are the enduring memorial of a man

who believed that the "preservation and development" of American institutions "have been, are, and will continue to be under the leadership of the legal profession." They are the tools with which a great University makes its contribution to the strengthening of those institutions.

THE LAW IS A PUBLIC PROFESSION, BY WHICH MORE THAN BY ANY OTHER PROFESSION, THE ECONOMIC LIFE AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE COUNTRY ARE MODELED.
—Elihu Root



Comfortably furnished rooms in the residence halls provide ample space for study and discussion.

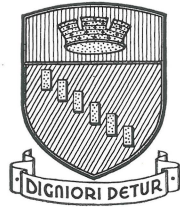


Student Residences

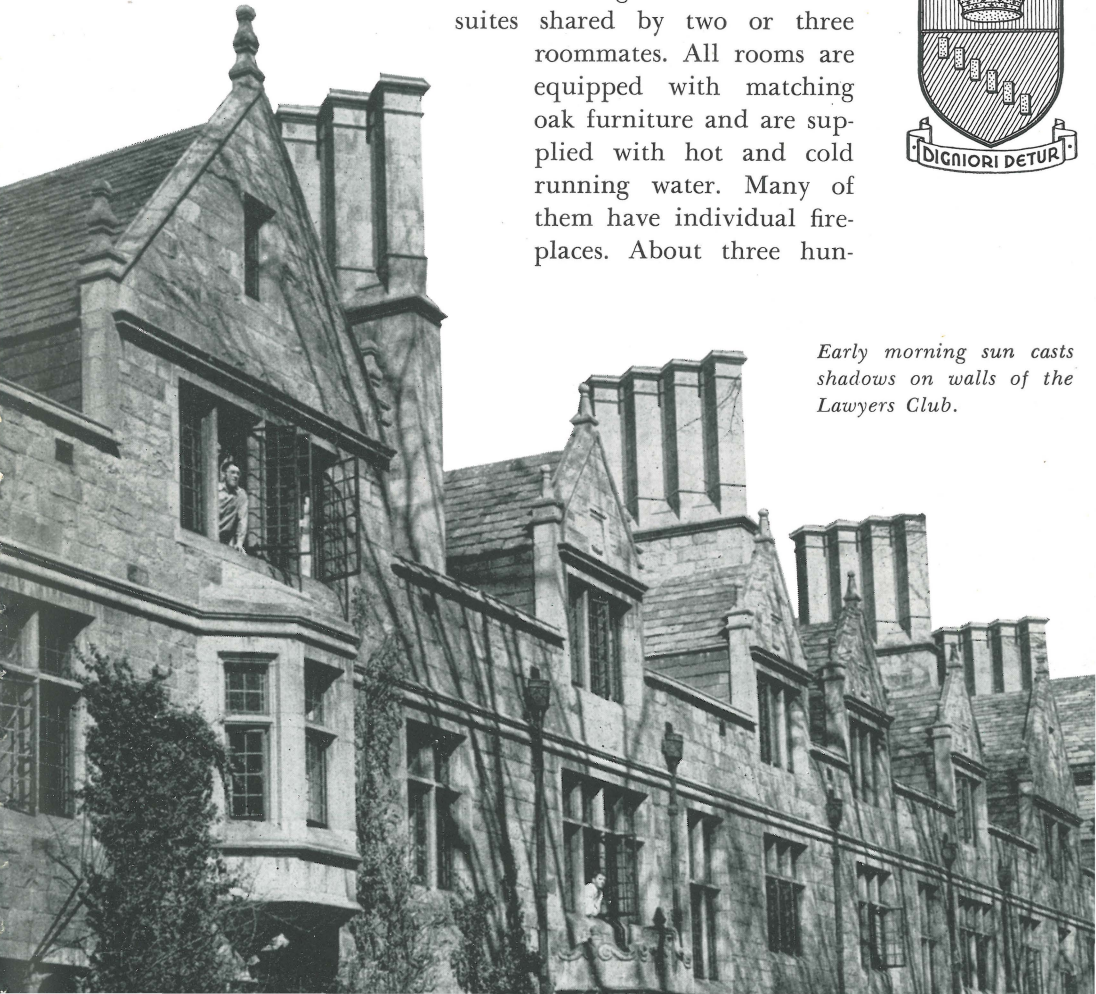
Living and studying together is an integral part of the Michigan program of legal education. The law student residences—the Lawyers Club and the John P. Cook Building—are devoted to this purpose. They contain student quarters as well as guest bedrooms for visiting lawyers or other guests of the School, and the Lawyers Club contains the dining hall, the lounge, and the recreation room which are open to all Club members and guests.

The dormitory buildings are divided into thirteen sections, each with its own entry-way, thus dividing the residents into small groups to facilitate close association and acquaintanceship.

There are single rooms as well as suites shared by two or three roommates. All rooms are equipped with matching oak furniture and are supplied with hot and cold running water. Many of them have individual fireplaces. About three hun-



Early morning sun casts shadows on walls of the Lawyers Club.





LAW CLUB LOUNGE

A popular spot between classes is the lounge of the Lawyers Club, where students may gather to talk, to read current issues of magazines and newspapers, or to review assignments for the next hour's class.

dred and fifty persons — approximately one-third of the students in the Law School — are housed in the Quadrangle. The remainder live in other University residence halls or elsewhere in the community. All law students, whether or not they live in the Quadrangle, are eligible for membership in the Lawyers Club, and as members are permitted to use its recreational facilities.

Particularly impressive in architectural detail is the dining hall of the Club, which seats three hundred students at a time at long oak tables. The great ceiling of the hall, fifty feet above the floor, is carved from old ship timbers, hammer-beam in construction. At the ends of the trusses supporting these beams are carved figures of eminent jurists, including Coke, Blackstone, Marshall and Cooley.

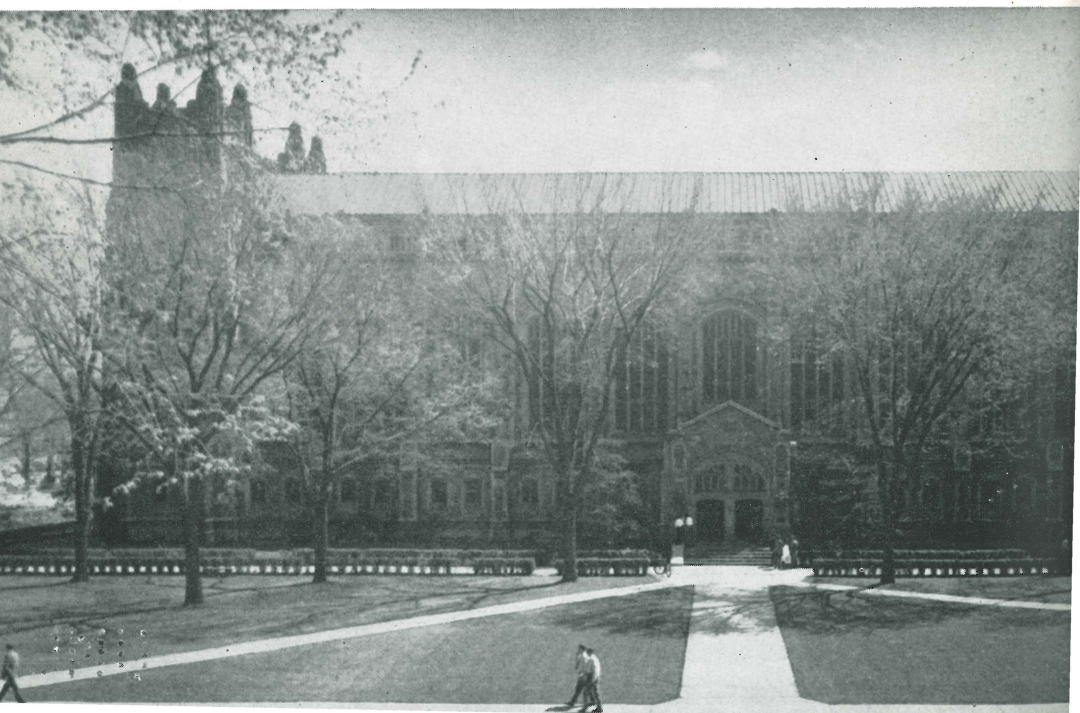
Students may spend their leisure hours in the lounge, adjoining the dining hall. It is a large room, Renaissance in style, with a high vaulted ceiling of white plaster with a design in relief. It is furnished with easy chairs and is well stocked with magazines and newspapers for spare time reading. The recreation hall, with ping pong, card tables, and other equipment, is located in the basement of the Lawyers Club.



Legal Research Building

The largest structure of the Quadrangle is the Legal Research Building, containing the Law Library and research offices. The main doorway opens directly into the reading room, which extends the full length of the building and seats slightly more than five hundred persons at long study tables. High windows of tinted glass are inset with stained glass sections showing the seals of the principal colleges and universities of the world. The walls of the reading room are paneled with English Pollard oak. The ceiling consists of large medallions of plaster, paneled and decorated in blue and gold. Opening off the main reading room are small alcoves with shelves holding some 20,000 volumes of reports, statutes, digests, law reviews, encyclopedias and dictionaries. To these the student has free access, but the remainder of the library collection, totaling more than 210,000 accessioned volumes together with many thousands of pamphlets and reports, is housed in stacks, accessible on call at the reference desk.

On the floor above the reading room are located thirty-two offices used by research workers, faculty members, and visiting lawyers. One of these rooms is a replica of the one-time New



The more than 200,000 volumes of the Law Library are indispensable both to education and to research. This is the main reading room of the Library, with seats for 500 students.



York City library of William W. Cook and contains his private collection of books. There is also a small research library on this floor, with book shelves and work space suitable for those engaged in the current research projects of the Law School. At present this library houses a special collection of books and documents on Latin-American law—one of the most complete collections on this subject in the United States.

Today's splendid Law Library has grown from a collection of about 350 books with which the School commenced instruction in 1859. Most of the volumes in the original collection were donated by Thomas M. Cooley, one

of the members of the first faculty of the School. Starting from this modest beginning, the library has been gradually augmented by books purchased with appropriations from University funds and by gifts from friends of the School. In addition the William W. Cook Endowment Fund has furnished financial support that has made possible the acquisition of thousands of volumes especially needed for legal research. Capacity of the present building is about 250,000 volumes, but provision can readily be made for expansion.





STUDENTS LINGER TO TALK OUTSIDE QUADRANGLE ENTRANCE TO HUTCHINS HALL

Hutchins Hall

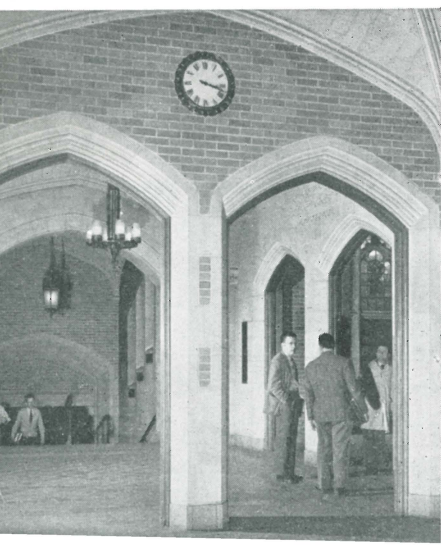
Classrooms and faculty offices are located in Hutchins Hall, a large four-story building, the last of the Law Quadrangle units to be completed. It was named in honor of Harry B. Hutchins, Dean of the Law School from 1895 to 1910 and President of the University of Michigan from 1910 to 1920.

Hutchins Hall contains nine classrooms, with seating capacities ranging from 50 to 250 students each, together with four seminar rooms used for meetings of small groups. There is

also a large reading room with adjoining stacks for a small reference library. Classrooms are constructed for maximum comfort and convenience, with student tables and chairs arranged in amphitheater form on tiers rising toward the rear of the room. An unusually attractive Practice Court room is also included.

Faculty and administrative offices of the Law School are on the third and fourth floors of Hutchins Hall, and in addition on the third floor there is a faculty library and study room large enough to hold about 25,000 volumes.

HUTCHINS HALL CORRIDOR



Headquarters of the *Michigan Law Review* and the *Journal of the American Judicature Society* are located on the fourth floor.

A unique alumni room is a special feature of the first floor. It is furnished with leather easy chairs, and contains numerous items of special interest to former students re-visiting their Alma Mater. Class pictures, beginning with the Class of 1873, are conveniently displayed.

Among the notable architectural features of Hutchins Hall are the many inscriptions of a legal character — quotations, mottoes, and the like — some carved in stone and others worked into the windows in stained glass and lead. Colored glass cartoons depicting legal situations have been set in the windows of the first floor corridors. On the outside of the building are carved the seals of the State of Michigan and the University as well as such well-known symbols of the law as the quill and scales of justice. Among practical features of the building are the rubber tile floors and acoustical plaster in classrooms.



ALUMNI ROOM

STUDENTS TAKE NOTES AS A CASE PROBLEM IS EXPLAINED



History of the Law School

Although the Organic Act of the University of Michigan, passed by the state legislature in 1837, included provision for a "department of law," actual establishment of the program was delayed for twenty-two years. Courses in law were first offered in 1859, when the Law School (then known as the Law Department) was opened with a faculty of three persons: James V. Campbell, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Michigan, Charles I. Walker, a practicing attorney in Detroit, and Thomas M. Cooley, a young lawyer then practicing in Adrian, Michigan, just launching a career that eventually brought him recognition as one of the greatest legal minds of the nineteenth century.

Ninety-two students enrolled for instruction in law during the first year—all having satisfied the sole requirements for admission by being "18 years of age and of a good moral character." Under the wise leadership of the early faculty, the school grew rapidly in enrollment and prestige. It gradually increased its entrance requirements, first by demanding also "a good English education," later a certificate of high school graduation, then two, three and eventually (in 1927) four years of college study and the Bachelor of Arts degree with an academic record good enough to indicate probable success in law study. Enrollment just before World War II approximated 600 students, but since

THOMAS
MCINTYRE
COOLEY

Professor of law from 1859 to 1884, Dean of the School, 1871 to 1883, Cooley was also author of important volumes on Constitutional limitations, taxation and torts. He was one of the leading authorities of his time on Constitutional law. Students stop to chat under the Cooley portrait in a Hutchins Hall corridor.





HENRY MOORE BATES

Dean of the Law School for more than a generation, builder of the modern Michigan Law School. Professor of law, 1903 to 1939, he was also Dean of the Law School from 1910 until his retirement in 1939. He died in 1949.

the war it has increased sharply, with more than a thousand students in residence in the post-war years.

Changes in the curriculum of law studies have accompanied the development of the School. At the outset the degree program consisted of two six-month terms, but the requirements were increased until in 1895 the present three years were required. In the beginning the faculty was made up entirely of practitioners, but by 1915 the staff was composed principally of men for whom teaching was a lifetime profession. The School continues, however, to call upon practicing lawyers for consultation, special lectures and other assistance.

In the beginning, Law School classes met in Mason Hall, one of the original campus buildings, but in 1863 they were moved to a new law building on the northwest corner of the campus. Now known as Haven Hall, this building was the home of law classes until 1933 when Hutchins Hall was occupied.

James V. Campbell was the first Dean of the Law School, holding the office from 1859 to 1871. He was succeeded by Thomas M. Cooley, Dean until 1883. Thereafter administration of the School was directed successively by Charles A. Kent (1883-85), Henry Wade Rogers (1885-90), Jerome C. Knowlton (1890-95), Harry B. Hutchins (1895-1910), Henry M. Bates (1910-39), and E. Blythe Stason from 1939 to date.

The Law Club Cloisters leading into the Quadrangle from South University Avenue.



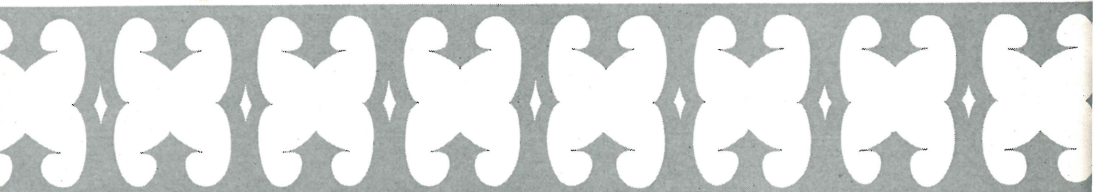
Inscribed inside entrance to Legal Research Building

William W. Cook

William W. Cook, who gave the Law Quadrangle to the University of Michigan and endowed its legal research and lectureships, is known to all Michigan alumni for his generous gifts to his Alma Mater. A native of Michigan, born in the town of Hillsdale in 1858, Mr. Cook entered the University in 1877, and earned the Bachelor of Arts degree in 1880. He then enrolled in the Law School and in 1882 was granted the degree of Bachelor of Laws. Entering the practice of law in New York City, he soon became an able and influential member of the bar. For many years he was General Counsel for the Commercial Cable and Postal Telegraph Company, but in 1921 he retired from active practice to devote the rest of his life to study and writing. He died on June 4, 1930, at Port Chester, New York.

Mr. Cook was both a competent lawyer and a prolific writer who earned for himself a notable reputation as a scholar and author. His most important work, known to every practicing lawyer, is *Cook on Corporations*, first published in 1887 under the title *Stock and Stockholders*. It is now a six-volume work in its eighth edition. In 1924 Mr. Cook published a brief volume on the law of corporations entitled *Principles of Corporation Law*. This was a summary of his larger work and was intended primarily for the use of law students.

It was in 1922 that Mr. Cook first revealed his broadening interests with the publication of a volume called *Power and Responsibility of the American Bar*. In it he set forth his earnest belief in the importance of the lawyer as a leader in American affairs, and he spoke strongly for the necessity of maintaining the highest level of intelligence and integrity in the legal profession.

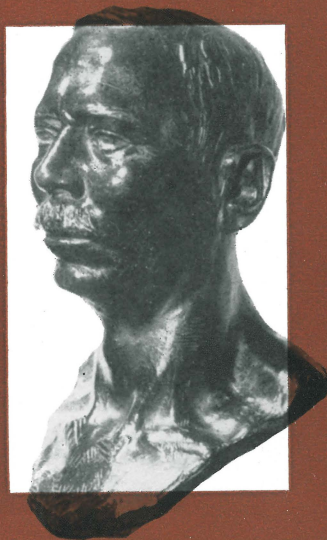


His belief in the virtue and value of American institutions was likewise growing, and in 1927 he published a two-volume work, *American Institutions and Their Preservation*. In this he set forth his philosophy concerning the "American way of life."

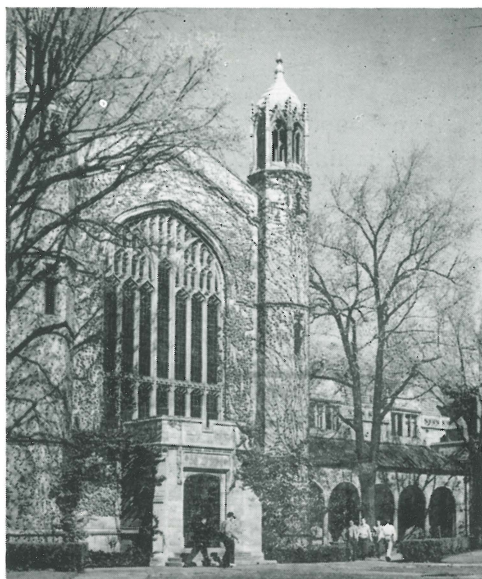
Mr. Cook gave to the University the William W. Cook Law Quadrangle, with its four major buildings, because he believed that by helping legal education he was helping the bar, and through the bar was helping America. In addition to these buildings, he gave the William W. Cook Endowment Fund for the support of legal research. He likewise gave the Martha Cook Dormitory for women students, named in honor of his mother. This is an undergraduate dormitory and is not a part of the Law Quadrangle.

Through his gift of the Law Quadrangle, William W. Cook made a unique and remarkable contribution, making available for future generations of law students facilities for legal education equal to the needs of the dynamic profession of law.

At the same time his generous endowment of legal research provides support for continuing exploration of the law itself and its relation to society. Mr. Cook's gift to his Alma Mater truly expresses his ideal of "an American Inn of Court."



WILLIAM W. COOK



The
LAW
SCHOOL

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
ANN ARBOR

UNIV. OF MICH.
BINDERY

FEB 20 1950